

## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- London Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

May 1987

STAT

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

Chief, WSS

Jm

2.

Chief, Comm Ctr

16/6

Hr

3.

SA/CD

6/16

Eas

4.

5.

6.

Chief, MOD

6/22

WJ

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

OPS  
LD

8 June 1987  
MLD-7022

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

FROM : Chief, FBIS London Bureau

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- London Bureau -- May 1987

## I. GENERAL

1. The first week of May was highlighted by the 38th annual FBIS-BBC coordination meeting. Well banqueted and briefed, Director [ ] and Operations Group Chief [ ] found an atmosphere of mutual understanding as well as professional courtesy and personal friendship which facilitated a successful meeting. Many bureau officers were pressed into service to provide extensive logistical and substantive support; with special efforts by the wives in arranging numerous social activities. STAT
2. In the last week of May, another Internet milestone was reached when arrangements among the bureau, Tel Aviv Bureau, Headquarters, and the BBCMS were completed for the contract recording in Tel Aviv of Tehran television news, delivery of the videotapes to Caversham within 2 days, and subsequent transmission over Internet for regular viewing on the Headquarters television grid. The first such Internet transmission was successfully carried out on 3 June.
3. On 19 May bureau management met with BBC architect [ ] and Deputy General Manager, Monitoring Service [ ] to clarify areas of confusion and sharpen priorities regarding bureau consolidation and renovation. Additional coordination with the BBC architect is planned for the near future. STAT  
STAT

## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Thanks to excellent and timely coordination between bureau editor [ ] and Headquarters Wire, FBIS was able to respond within 2 hours to a 31 May NIACT Immediate message from the American Embassy in Moscow requesting text of President Reagan's New Year's address to the Soviet people, which was needed for a 1 June meeting with Soviet officials by visiting USIA Director [ ]. Headquarters was unable to retrieve the item from MIDAS and had to repunch it from the published DAILY REPORT version. STAT  
  
STAT

STAT  
STAT  
STAT

2. Bureau editors [redacted] as well as communicators [redacted] [redacted] were commended by the bureau chief for their excellent performance on 30 May in handling the Moscow TASS report on the retirement of Soviet Defense Minister Sokolov -- which cleared the bureau in 6 minutes at FLASH precedence and resulted in Headquarters CRITIC being issued -- and the subsequent Moscow radio report that Commander Koldunov of the Soviet antiaircraft defense had been replaced.
3. Not to be left out, PMU once again showed its prowess by processing within 3 hours from the 20 May edition of PRAVDA a 21-take exclusive interview with General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev by reporters from the Italian newspaper L'UNITA.
4. On 19 May, London, Amman, and Nicosia bureaus received from C/WSS Chapman the Wire's thanks for their valuable contribution to reporting on the 17 May attack on the USS Stark, which enabled the Wire to provide many key consumers with timely updates on media treatment as well as factual reportage on the incident.

#### B. Communications

As of 29 May, a sufficient number of operators had been trained in Internet operations and equipment to allow the bureau to inform Headquarters that it was ready to initiate weekend transmissions. The success of such training efforts has been due in no small part to Unit Chief Denis Dibley and Senior Shift Supervisor Jerry Stockwell. The latter has become particularly deft in writing clear and concise operating instructions to explain an extremely complicated process, of which the following is an example: "INTERNET COMPUTER MENU: ... If item H indicates TURN ECHO MODE OFF, it is in fact ON and will be turned OFF when you select TURN ECHO MODE ON, which indicates that the echo mode is OFF but can be selected to be ON."

#### C. Technical

Major tasks during the month included overhauling all Extel ASR's, overseeing the installation of new Glamos lighting in the communications area for proper light diffusion, and installing an additional tuner to reduce the noise level of the Tripoli TV audio signal relayed over Internet.

### III. ADMINISTRATION

#### Personnel

1. MWR associate editor [redacted] completed his three 1-day conferences at the School of Oriental and African Studies on 18, 19, and 20 May dealing with the politics and economy of Egypt, Jordan and Syria. These excellent conferences were part of a bureau effort to organize relevant external training

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possibilities for appropriate personnel.

2. PMU Arabic linguist candidate [ ] has cleared processing. Bureau is waiting for results of the medical before setting entry-on-duty date and requesting Headquarters approval. STAT
3. The WAE courier candidate has withdrawn from processing due to a family problem. The bureau has another candidate under consideration who worked for Austrian Bureau as a contractor.
4. Editor [ ] arrived PCS 15 May. STAT

#### IV. VISITS

To the bureau: Director and [ ] 1-13 May for coordination meeting and private travel; Operations Group Chief [ ] 4-10 May for coordination meeting; [ ] Production Group special assistant for modernization, TDY 26 May for briefing and orientation. STAT  
STAT  
STAT



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#### Attachments

cc: Chief, Austria Bureau  
Chief, Cologne Unit  
Chief, Islamabad Unit  
Chief, Okinawa Bureau